

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUNE 13, 1993

Mr. Per Lind, Chairman
DanAm Corporation. Ltd.
3940 Corliss Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46217-3368

Dear Mr. Lind:

Thank you for the information which you sent to Administrator Browner about DanAm Corporation and your recent study on used oil filters.

In 1992, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) exempted generators of used oil filters from certain provisions of the regulations for generators to determine whether their wastes are hazardous wastes. These regulations were published in the **Federal Register** on May 20, 1992 (see 57 FR 21626). I have enclosed a copy of this **Federal Register** notice for your information.

The purpose of this exemption is to reduce the burden on generators, who are often small businesses, to make a hazardous waste determination prior to disposal of their used oil filters. The exemption was promulgated based on studies submitted to EPA during the public comment period on the proposed rules for management of used oil. The studies determined that non-terneplated used oil filters from which used oil has been removed do not typically and frequently exhibit a characteristic of hazardous waste, including toxicity. The studies evaluated various methods of removing used oil from the filters including, draining, draining and crushing, and pressurized air. Since the small amount of used oil that may remain in filters after these procedures did not cause the filters to exhibit a hazardous waste characteristic, filters may be sent to landfills after the used oil is removed by methods specified in the regulations. The exemption does not apply to terne-plated filters because tests indicated that these filters exhibited the toxicity characteristic for lead after removal of the used oil.

The regulations provide several alternative methods for removing the used oil from the non-terne-plated filters. The filters may be punctured and hot-drained, dismantled and hot-drained, or hot drained and crushed using products such as those distributed by DanAm Corporation, or the used oil may be removed by any other equivalent hot-draining method.

Thank you for again for the information on your study. I share your interest in recycling and proper management of automotive wastes.

Sincerely yours,
Jeffery D. Denit, Acting Director
Office of Solid Waste
FaxBack # 11754